

In the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0001] as follows:

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 10/758,955 (attorney docket no. 367618013US1) entitled "Methods and Apparatuses for Launching Unmanned Aircraft, Including Methods and Apparatuses for Releasably Gripping Aircraft During Launch," filed January 16, 2004 and incorporated herein in its entirety by reference. This application also claims priority to pending U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/554,824 (attorney docket no. 367618023US), entitled "Methods and Systems for Accelerating Aircraft for Launch," filed March 19, 2004 and incorporated herein in its entirety by reference.